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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/749,093	12/17/2003	Richard E. Stein	279.B31US2	3171
45458	7590	02/22/2006	EXAMINER	
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH/ GUIDANT/CPI PO BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			FAULCON JR, LENWOOD	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3762	

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SP

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/749,093	STEIN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lenwood Faulcon, Jr.	3762	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 October 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed October 26, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In view of Applicant's definition of the term deadfront (paragraph 35), Examiner takes the position that a light emitting diode (LED) would fall under the definition of deadfront. Examiner is of the position that a LED as taught by Stanton et al. indicate the status of a particular function or condition by being on or off and does not change shape, color or message to convey the information. Further, Applicant admits there are other types of deadfront status indicators, such as those commonly incorporated into automobile dashboards (paragraph 35). Examiner also takes the position that the positioning of the LEDs on the front as Applicant has claimed has not been shown to be critical, and thus Stanton et al. also teaching of having the LEDs on the bottom of the device would be an obvious design choice.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stanton et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,249,703) in view of Nappholz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,720,770) as applied in the previous Office Action of June 27, 2005.

As discussed above, Examiner takes the position that Applicant's definition of deadfront (paragraph 35) is interpreted to include light emitting diodes (LEDs). Applicant's specification admits other examples of deadfront status indicators are those warning lights commonly found incorporated into the dashboard of automobiles to

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indicate various issues and conditions (paragraph 35). Examiner takes the position that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system as taught by Stanton et al. to include various warning/issue indicators to provide messages to a patient, since as admitted by Applicant, various types of deadfront status indicators are known to convey information to a user of potential issues and conditions that are sensed by a system. Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Stanton et al., Nappholz et al. and Applicant's admissions, to have the limitations of claims 16-25.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Fischell (U.S. Patent No. 4,295,474), (U.S. Patent No. 5,674,249), Kaemmerer (U.S. Patent No. 5,693,076), (U.S. Patent No. 5,720,770), (U.S. Patent No. 6,057,758), (U.S. Patent No. 6,821,249).
4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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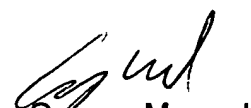
the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lenwood Faulcon, Jr. whose telephone number is 571-272-6090. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9 to 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Angela D. Sykes, can be reached on 571-272-4955. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Lenwood Faulcon, Jr.


George Manuel

Primary Examiner